

The Tollgate Farm News

VOLUME 28

ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2022



MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers Recognition Dinner Saturday, November 5, 2022

The Tollgate Garden Volunteers (TGVs) gathered for the first Recognition Dinner since 2019 on Saturday, November 5, to celebrate all the accomplishments of the past year. Tollgate Farm Manager, Roy Prentice, presented Tollgate's journey in a wonderful look back in pictures. 2022 saw the return of many annual Tollgate Farm events, which brought joy to the community, volunteers, and staff. As part of the presentation, the two annual TGV awards were announced. Congratulations to the winners!!

Ginger Meyer Award – Mary Bohner

(Nursery, PAR Garden, and twenty years of volunteer service to the farm)



The Ginger Meyer Award is given annually to recognize the Tollgate Garden Volunteer who shares some of the treasured qualities of Ginger Meyer (one of the owners of Tollgate Farm from 1951 until it was donated to MSU in 1987). The volunteer chosen shows a commitment to Tollgate, a love and knowledge of gardening and a willingness to share that knowledge with others.

Golden Shovel Award – Jacob Di Ponio

(PAR Garden)



The Golden Shovel Award is presented to the first-year Tollgate Garden Volunteer who registers the most volunteer hours on the site.

**No Tollgate Volunteer General Meetings in November and December
The Farm News will not be published in December**

The Tollgate Farm News

Change in Calendar

ROSE GARDEN ACTIVITY DAY SATURDAY, November 12th

(Originally scheduled for December 17th)

10:00 a.m. till done



We will assist Mother Nature in providing winter protection for the roses by providing wind protection with burlap wrap around the existing deer fencing cages and mulching. Dress for the weather. Bringing your own scissors for burlap sizing would be helpful.

If weather permits, we may also install above ground irrigation.

LAST ACTIVITY DAY OF THE SEASON!

If questions contact Renee at rmcottrell4@att.net or 248-251-4505.

The Tollgate Farm News

A Special Thanks!

To all of you who donated to help the Tollgate Gardeners make Tollgate a more beautiful place - your donation is greatly appreciated! The support you have provided will continue to help our program prosper and grow. Thanks again and Happy Gardening!

**Marilyn Alimpich
Phyllis Antosz
Suzanne Bolton
Paula Brose
Susan Cooper**

**Mindy Hitchcock
Vera Hurchik
Tonja Nudi
Judy Poole
Nancy Powell**

**Norm Powell
Janet Schenk
Hillary Sproule
John Woodrich
Karen Worley**



Photo from MSU Extension website

The Tollgate Farm News

FROM THE TOLLGATE FARM MANAGER

GREETINGS

Roy Prentice



Greetings all,

The 2022 gardening season is coming to an end. The wonderful work that Tollgate's volunteers performed this year has resulted in great gardens that are a joy for our many visitors. Thanks to all that made 2022 such a great year at Tollgate!

Recognition Dinner: This year's volunteer recognition dinner was a wonderful event! The evening was supported by the Americana Foundation. Over eighty volunteers and guests joined us for dinner, a presentation of the Tollgate year in gardening, and the awards ceremony. It was great to get together in person after two years break due to Covid.

The Tollgate year in gardening presentation that was put together by Nancy Powell and myself was a big hit as were the many door prizes. The food was great too. One of the highlights of the evening was the recognition of our first-year volunteer who worked the most hours on the farm. Our 2022 "Golden Shovel" award winner is Jake Di Ponio. Jake received a genuine gold pin provided by the Americana Foundation, and his name engraved on a plaque hung in Tollgate's Volunteer Center.

The highlight of the evening was the granting of the "Ginger Meyer" award. This award was presented to long-time Tollgate volunteer, Mary Bohner, for her many years of service to Tollgate. Mary is a wonderful person who has been volunteering at Tollgate for over twenty years. Mary is truly emblematic of the hard-

working volunteers who ensure Tollgate's success. The Ginger Meyer award, a silver bowl inscribed with the recipient's name, was established to honor the memory of Ginger Meyer who, along with her husband Adolph, was instrumental in establishing the Americana Foundation and in donating Tollgate to MSU. Mary's name has been inscribed on a plaque that is hung in the Tollgate Volunteer Center. Both the Golden Shovel and Ginger Meyer awards are given annually. Thank you, Jake and Mary, for all that you do for the farm!



Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers for another great year at Tollgate! I can't wait for winter to loosen its icy grip so that we can get going on 2023. It will be maple syruping season before we know it!

Roy

Photo provided by Roy Prentice

The Tollgate Farm News



Notes from the President
Renee Cottrell

“November has tied me to an old dead tree, get word to April to rescue me...”

-Tom Wait, American singer, songwriter, actor

As the season ends...

What a wonderful and successful season we have had for 2022!

- We have weathered our 3rd season dealing with Covid virus and the lingering need for some early season restrictions and implementation of best practices in returning for our group activities for outdoor face to face gatherings.
- We continued with quality speakers at our monthly meetings, both live and Zoom and the active garden members kept the gardens looking great!
- We enjoyed an influx of new members both active and support and increased Master Gardener candidate, youth, and community volunteers this year in the gardens.
- The spring and fall Plant Sale events returned to a no-reservations and open-to-public format with good attendance and success in generating over \$8,200 towards the garden fund.
- A grant was secured from The Americana Foundation to fund the proposed cost of \$6,640 for the renovation of the Rose Garden for 2022 and 2023 planting phases initiated this year.
- Volunteers working in MSU Tollgate’s Plant-A-Row for the hungry garden, celebrating its 20th anniversary of production, boasted 3,740 lbs. of produce for the foodbanks of CARES of

Farmington Hills, Feed the Need of Novi, Forgotten Harvest and PB&J out of Detroit.

- Total hours for garden volunteers were 2,846 for the Jan 1-Oct 15 reporting period of the 2022 season with scheduled volunteer opportunities in the garden through early November.

I hope all of you who volunteered found reward in the services you provided and the success this season in our continued organizational mission. **All Tollgate Garden Volunteers helped make this season, this place, what it is to the community. Take a bow!**

‘TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING THANKS!

My special thanks to our tireless Farm Manager **Roy Prentice**, with the assistance of the always smiling **Brett Dan**, for their commitment to assisting the Tollgate Garden Volunteers. Without their knowledge and support we could not reach the successes we have had this season! My endless appreciation goes to the TGAC board members and dedicated Chairpersons who continued to meet and contribute to the behind-the-scenes operations of our organization. This group continues to push for the growth of the organization with their time and talents. Your 2023 TGAC will include me as returning President, **Marilyn Alimpich**, Vice President, **Karen Harris**, Treasurer and **Theresa Bridenbaugh**, Secretary.

Notes from the President continued on Page 6

The Tollgate Farm News

Notes from the President continued from Page 5

Our volunteer members serving as Chairpersons on the board deserve our gratitude for the many hours they contribute in the day-to-day running of the organization:

Angie Carter, Membership
Nancy Powell, Newsletter Editor
Jackie Stengel, Speaker Programs
Teresa LaRosa, Hospitality
Kathy Johnson, Communications

As outlined in our October newsletter, we also have members filling the roles of Area Garden Leaders (AGLs) dedicated to providing leadership to their teams and others and support in the gardens. Though too numerous to list here, **all** of you and your extra efforts, skills and leadership are greatly appreciated.

IN RECOGNITION

The 2022 recipient of the Ginger Meyer Award is Mary Bohner in recognition for her long-standing commitment and efforts in the PAR garden and Nursery and multiple other garden events and areas. This Award was established by Ginger Meyer's family and the Americana Foundation to thank a Tollgate Garden volunteer, nominated by the garden membership, for their commitment, knowledge and love of gardening and willingness to share those attributes with others.

Our Golden Shovel award, which goes to the new member who logs the greatest number of volunteer hours for the season is Jacob Di Ponio. He primarily worked with the PAR team to help them reach their harvest goals. Congratulations to you both!

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2023

We are developing our Saturday group work day calendar for 2023 and start our season planning at the January 14th Garden Teams Meeting (details will follow closer to the date). Our general membership meetings will continue as Zoom through March with further

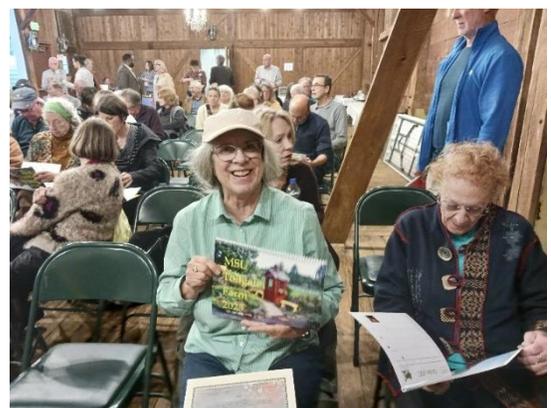
decisions made at that time based on those current circumstances. Watch for updates and announcements via email and when the newsletter resumes in January.

Be thankful and joyful this Holiday season.

Thank you for being a Tollgate Garden Volunteer,

Renee Cottrell, Adv. MG, TGV President

TGVs Gathering for the Recognition Dinner:



Photos provided by Renee Cottrell

The Tollgate Farm News

Garden Plant Label Project - UPDATE

A labeling “workshop” will now be held onsite at Tollgate at some point during the “off season” after the annual AGL meeting to be held in January. (More information to come on this project.)

AGLS - Please compile a list of labels needed for your garden. Your list should include the botanical, species, and common names of your plants, if available to you.

Please complete your list in time for the meeting in January.



Photo provided by Marilyn Alimpich

Please Renew Your Membership for 2023

Happy Holidays!
Give yourself a present -
renew your annual
TGV Membership now so you
don't have to think about it
in 2023!

The form can be found at
the end of this newsletter.

As a member,
you stay notified of
Volunteer Workdays,
events, and meetings.

Thank you!
Angie Carter
Tollgatemembers@gmail.com



The Tollgate Farm News



**VOLUNTEERS
TOGETHER
DIVIDING
GROWING
SHARING**

NURSERY NOTES
Peg Palmer

THE NURSERY IS NOW CLOSED FOR THE WINTER.



This involved a lot of work to get new divisions potted up and then inventory everything in the Nursery.



A complete plant inventory is needed to develop our spring “Plants Wanted” requests. We also use this starting point, subtracting dead pots and adding

new spring donations to keep a running total of what we have on hand. This helps to develop strategies for Spring sale “specials” to sell overstocks as well as know what donations to really push for. We also check our Plant Tag files over the winter to be sure we have signage for each variety we expect to have at the Spring Sale. We received a lot of great plant divisions in the final weeks of the season after a slow start when the Nursery opened in August. If you didn’t get to donate, no worries – we will need lots more plants donated in the spring! Despite receiving lots of donations this fall, we are still working to rebuild Nursery inventory to pre-Covid levels. We calculate the total Nursery capacity at 4,150 pots – so there is lots of space to fill!

2022 WAS A GREAT YEAR FOR THE NURSERY!

We hosted successful plant sales for Spring and Fall –vital fundraising events that support the needs of all Tollgate Gardens. It was great to be “back to normal” without the challenging restrictions of the last couple years. Sale preparations were also “back to normal” – with multiple volunteers “elbow to elbow” around the potting table on those big division days leading up to the sale.

WE ARE ALWAYS SEARCHING FOR IMPROVEMENTS...

The overhead irrigation system in the Nursery is a good example. Kurt Westermann designed and led the original installation of this system. After an initial pilot, the system was installed in summer 2019 for SUN Rows 2 – 10 (9 of 20 “open” Nursery rows). Overhead irrigation was subsequently expanded to cover rows 11 - 19. This summer, we implemented



a new process to also change mister and filter parts mid-season, as we found performance to deteriorate as they became clogged due to well water impurities. This solution seems to have been successful! The overhead structure is now in place for rows 1 and 20, so completing irrigation

coverage for the full Nursery is a future possibility.

| Year | Final Fall Inventory (# pots) |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 2022 | 1,338 |
| 2021 | 1,541 |
| 2020 | 1,545 |
| 2019 | 2,300 |

Nursery Notes continued on Page 9

The Tollgate Farm News

PAR Garden continued from Page 8

THE POTTING WAGON HAS A NEW WINTER COVER! This critical piece of Nursery infrastructure was “rebuilt” this summer.



The old wagon was close to collapse when Brett and Roy came to the rescue with a new and improved rebuild. Since the nursery

team is potting plants right up to (and often after) the Nursery closing day, there is no practical way to remove remaining soil at the end of the season. Fall rains and winter snow create a heavy, wet soil that deteriorates the wood underneath.



Many thanks to Brett, who recently installed a winter cover to protect from snowmelt and rain. This should alleviate this problem by keeping the

soil dry and make that sturdy potting wagon last for many seasons to come!

Does this sound interesting to you? Consider joining the Nursery Team for next season! We have recently onboarded some new Row Leaders, but there are still areas open to adopt! It's fun to learn about lots of different plants, including how to grow them in a pot! You can join as a **ROW LEADER** (focus your attention on maintaining a group of plants in one specific area), or a **MEMBER AT LARGE** (a generalist who is kept in the loop with all that's happening in the Nursery and helps out with whatever projects are ongoing as you are available). In either role, you can be part of future changes as we work to continually improve our operations, learn about growing lots of different plants and raise money to support all the Tollgate Gardens! Email Peg Palmer for more info: palmermargaretanne@gmail.com

Some lovely blooms in the Nursery rows this past summer and fall:



Photos on Pages 6 & 7 provided by Peg Palmer

The Tollgate Farm News



Final harvest total is 3,740 lbs.! If we had counted the “farmers” carrots which were the ones that we did not donate due to imperfections, we would have been over 4,000 lbs. - a record since 2015, when we had over 4,000 lbs. due to a bumper 1,000 lbs. of cabbage. Congratulations and gratitude to all who contributed to such a successful harvest season and to making our 20th anniversary so grand!

| <u>2022 Produce</u> | <u>Total Pounds</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Beans | 119 |
| Beets | 639 |
| Squash | 386 |
| Cabbage | 304 |
| Carrots | 852 |
| Garlic | 13 |
| Onion | 513 |
| Potatoes | 508 |
| Leeks | 11 |
| Turnips | 268 |
| Radishes | 115 |
| Parsley | 12 |
| Grand Total | 3740 |

We have winterized the garden with the oat / pea cover crop, black plastic, and straw over the garlic beds, and cleaned up the shed.



The garlic was planted in October and all other plants removed and composted.



Left and bottom right photos provided by Kathryn Fitzpatrick
Top two right photos by Lynette Leroux

PAR Garden continued on Page 11

The Tollgate Farm News

PAR Garden continued from Page 10



So, to summarize it has already been a tremendous year for the PAR Garden. This year we donated to C.A.R.E.S., Feed the Need, Forgotten Harvest, and PB&J and are proud of our contribution to helping with food security. As always, it is important to note that this success must be attributed to the dedicated volunteers, the MSU Tollgate Farm staff, including the very helpful CSA team, and a shout out to the very helpful Novi High School Robotics Team who weeded and mulched our garden pathways.

Looking forward to another great season in 2023, as well as to welcoming new volunteers who are interested in joining our fantastic team and providing such a valuable service to the community.

Happy Holidays to all – hope to see you in the garden next year or perhaps in the greenhouse in the early spring,

Kathryn Fitzpatrick

Top left photo provided Kathryn Fitzpatrick
Bottom left photo by Lynette Leroux

We have started planning for the next season – reflecting on what worked, what didn't, and what we want to add. We will be focusing on pest management of the cabbage moths and potato beetles; new crops such as spaghetti squash, hot peppers, and kohlrabi; and succession and companion planting both to stagger the harvest and provide weed and pest management. In the spring we will assess how the cover crops worked and decide whether to do more or discontinue. We will also be starting onions and cabbage in the greenhouse in the early spring with help from the CSA team.

P.S. A few of our PAR team from the November 5th TGV Recognition Dinner:



The Tollgate Farm News

Special Honors for TGV President, Renee Cottrell

At the end of every gardening season, all volunteers are presented with a certificate of appreciation from MSU Tollgate Education Center for their efforts and work at Tollgate. The certificates are signed by MSU Tollgate Farm Manager, Roy Prentice, and the MSU Tollgate Farm Volunteer President, Renee Cottrell. Each year, Roy tries to do something special for Renee by having someone of note sign her certificate (so she is not signing her own!). For 2022, Roy was able to track down, through a series of contacts, the very special signature of Draymond Green, former MSU basketball standout from 2008-2012. However, he didn't stop there – not only was Renee's certificate signed, she also received a signed Golden State Warriors jersey from the All-Star player.



Photos provided by Nancy Powell

The Tollgate Farm News

Easier to Visit the Animal Barn

The next time that you are at Tollgate, make sure to check out the addition to the animal barn. Recently, we had a contractor install a concrete sidewalk and landing pad that make the animal barn more accessible to all visitors to the farm. Tollgate owns a touring trailer with a ramp that can accommodate wheel chairs. The landing pad allows ramp access from the trailer and easy entrance to the barn. Check it out!



Photos provided by Roy Prentice

The Tollgate Farm News

Member Spotlight

We are spotlighting two members wearing their badge this month, as we don't publish the Farm News in December:

Marilyn Alimpich



Karen Harris



Years gardening... "Started gardening about 40 years ago as a new homeowner."

Master Gardener since... "Took MG classes twice...about 1983 and again in 2008 when I retired and had time to complete my 40 hours in year one. Also received a certificate from Janet Macunovich's Michigan School of Gardening."

Volunteer at Tollgate since... "early 2009, after hearing Roy speak to our MG class."

Favorite garden... "I have to say Xeriscape since I've worked in it so long. I've come to appreciate what it represents, especially as our climate heats up."

Years gardening... "My first flower garden was in 3rd grade."

Master Gardener since... 2014

Volunteer at Tollgate since... 2014

Favorite garden... "I have to say Children's Garden Prairie. But all the gardens are wonderful."

Marilyn's photo provided by Renee Cottrell
Karen's photo by Nancy Powell

The Tollgate Farm News

Welcome New Tollgate Garden Volunteer Members

We are glad you are with us! Please feel free to contact Renee Cottrell with any questions on our planned activities and schedules for 2022. You may email your questions about the gardens and volunteering at rmcottrell4@att.net. This is a wonderful place, full of educational opportunities, with personal satisfaction and social connections as reward for volunteering. Our membership holds a large amount of collective knowledge and expertise that is willingly shared with a strong team approach to make every effort to direct new members to areas of most interest on the site. We want to guide you to a great experience with the Tollgate Garden Volunteers. Check out these links to start exploring your garden opportunities:

Garden Orientation PDF

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/uploads/files/Tollgate%20Garden%20Volunteer%20orientation%20draft2.pdf>

Tollgate web pages for the Gardens

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/gardens/>

2022 Tollgate Garden Volunteer Activity Calendar

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/uploads/tollgate%20calendar%206-8-2022.pdf>

Other volunteer info at Tollgate

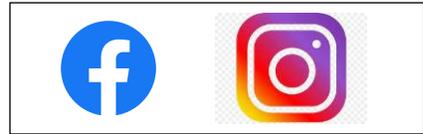
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/volunteering/>



Photo provided by Roy Prentice

The Tollgate Farm News

Tollgate Gardens are on Facebook and Instagram



Share the beauty of Tollgate Gardens on Facebook and Instagram

We are posting photos and information about the gardens on the Tollgate Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ExperienceTollgate>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/msutollgatefarm/>) pages.

Our posts have been well received and we are increasing the awareness of our gardens, providing education on the plants in our gardens and hopefully encouraging some new volunteers. If you would like to help, please send high resolution photos to Kathy Johnson (kmj@chartermi.net), along with information about the photo like garden name, plant name, and the time of year the photo was taken. Note: photos can be taken over the last few years. If you would like to draft a brief educational text about the plant and its care, please send that also. Kathy will help finalize the post for you and when completed she will coordinate with the Tollgate social media lead to get it published. We would like to have lots of social media posts on the gardens this year!

Example of a recent Instagram posting:

msutollgatefarm

msutollgatefarm Tollgate PAR Garden Wraps Up a Great Season!

Our Plant a Row for the Hungry (PAR) garden harvest total is currently at 3240 pounds with more yet to be harvested! What a great season with the heavy hitters being carrots at close to 700 pounds, beets at 640 pounds, potatoes (despite the prolific potato beetles) at over 500 pounds, and summer squash at close to 320 pounds. Still to be harvested more beans and carrots along with a second planting of summer squash, turnips, and radishes.

This year we donated to C.A.R.E.S., Feed the Need, Forgotten Harvest, and PB&J and are proud of our contribution to helping with food security. As always, it is important to note that this success must be attributed to the dedicated PAR garden volunteers, the MSU Tollgate Farm staff including the very helpful CSA team, and a shout out to the very helpful Novi High School Robotics Team who weeded and mulched our garden pathways.

To start preparing for next year we have already planted a cover crop of oat/pea to help with weed pressure this fall and enrich the soil. These cover crops will die out over the winter and are easy to remove in the spring giving us a great start next season. It is also time to plant garlic, start preparing the garden for winter, and start planning for the next season.

The PAR gardens are located at the west end of the farm beyond the goats, sheep, and chickens. You can visit the Tollgate gardens Monday - Sunday, 9:00 am - 8:00 pm.

This post was created by Tollgate Garden Volunteers.

#msutollgategardens #msutollgatefarms
#extensionmastergardeners
#michiganstateextensionmastergardener #tollgategardens
#plantarowforthehungry

16 likes
OCTOBER 18

The Tollgate Farm News

THE CHILDREN'S GARDEN



Top row photo provided by Marilyn Alimpich
Second row and bottom left photos by Karen Harris
Bottom right photo by Roy Prentice

The Tollgate Farm News

KALE IN THE CHILDREN'S GARDEN



Photos provided by Kathy Johnson

The Tollgate Farm News

FALL COLOR ACROSS THE FARM



Top two row photos provided by Karen Harris
Bottom row photos by Marilyn Alimpich

The Tollgate Farm News

THE XERISCAPE GARDEN



Photos provided by Marilyn Alimpich

The Tollgate Farm News

VIEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S GARDEN



Photos provided by Karen Harris

The Tollgate Farm News

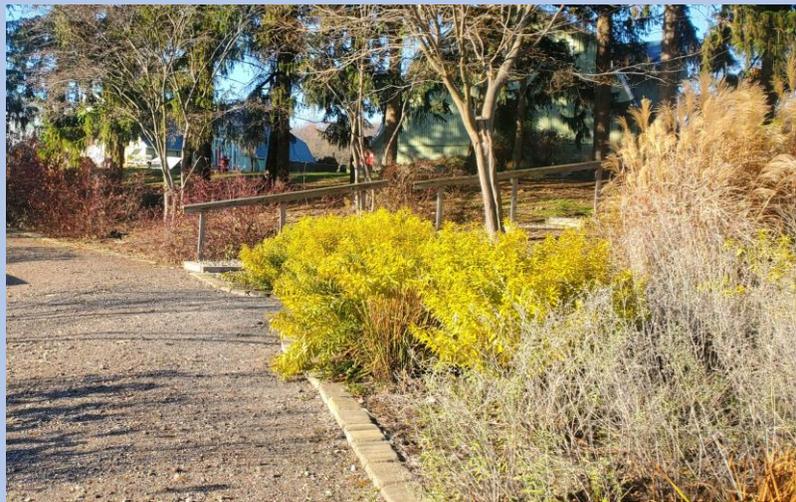
FALL GRASSES IN THE FOG



Photos provided by Kathy Johnson

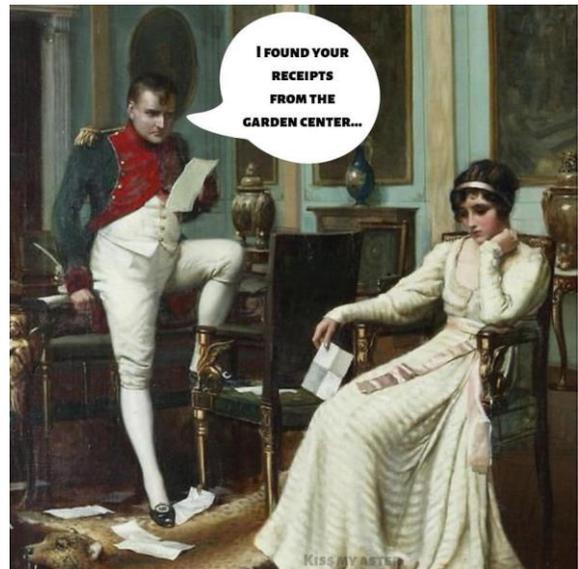
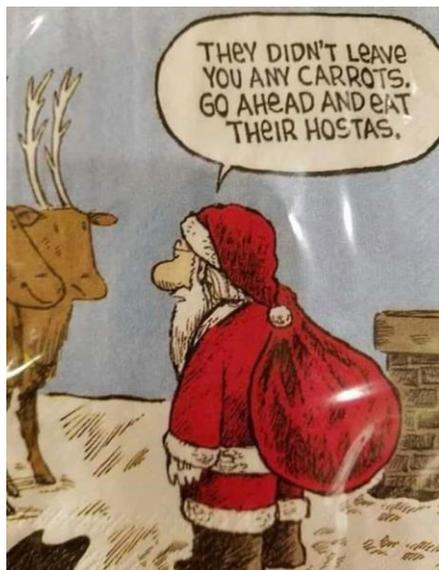
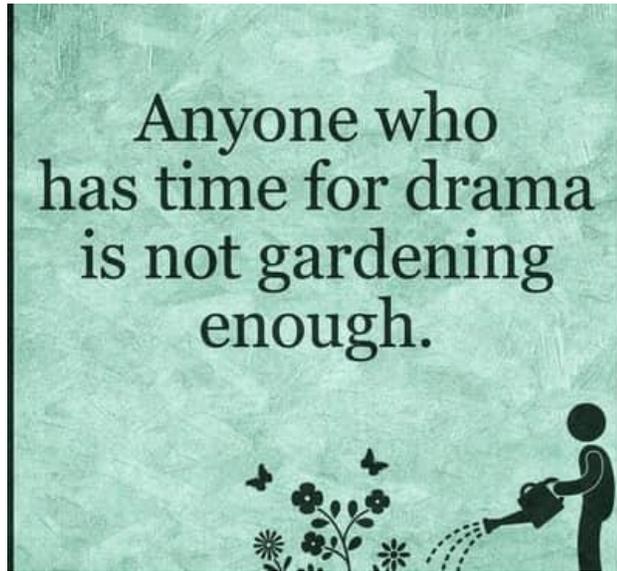
The Tollgate Farm News

SIGNS OF FALL ON THE FARM



Photos provided by Roy Prentice

The Tollgate Farm News



Garden quotes submitted by Kathryn Currier

The Tollgate Farm News

Take a Tollgate Picture

Next time you are volunteering at Tollgate, consider taking some pictures for the Tollgate Calendar. The preferred format is jpeg, landscape files. **It is important to send high-resolution photo files at full or actual size.** Send photo files in separate emails, if necessary, to TGFarmPhotos@gmail.com.

Photos are also appreciated for the monthly Farm News. Photo files can be "small-sized" and sent to napowell77@gmail.com.

Every season is magical at Tollgate. Think about capturing that magic in a photo for the Tollgate Calendar or Farm News.



Top left photo provided by Dave Komraus
Bottom left, top and bottom right photos by Roy Prentice
Middle right photo by Norm Powell
(All photos 2021)

Tollgate Volunteer Information

Activity Days: January - October

- Activity Day hours are 9:00 am – Noon, unless otherwise noted on the Activities section of the first page of the newsletter, and the full year calendar (next page).
- Lunch will be provided on scheduled workdays.
- Active members will continue to get email reminders of these activities.

*We strongly recommend you bring your own tools for your garden activities. All tools borrowed from the toolshed **must** be sanitized with a 10% bleach solution prior to returning the items to the toolshed after use.*

TIP: If you aren't getting **The Tollgate Farm News** email, check your SPAM folder

Volunteer Activity Day and Meeting information will be communicated by email

Garden Tools Available for Use at Tollgate

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| Spades | Leaf Rakes |
| Garden Rakes | Garden Hoe |
| Brooms | Long-Handled Garden Forks |
| Wheelbarrows | Weed Buckets |

Suggested Gardening Implements to Bring from Home as Needed

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Trowel | Plant Division Forks |
| Pruners | Shrub Rake |
| Loppers | Sun Screen/Insect Repellant |
| Garden Scissors | Garden Gloves |
| Hand Saw | Knee Pads |
| Weeding Implement | |

Tollgate Garden Advisory Committee (TGAC)

Farm Manager – Roy Prentice

248-347-3860 Ext.251 prentic1@msu.edu

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| President | Renee Cottrell |
| Vice President | Marilyn Alimpich |
| Secretary | Theresa Bridenbaugh |
| Treasurer | Karen Harris |
| Membership | Angie Carter |
| Communications | Kathy Johnson |
| Programs | Jackie Stengel |
| Hospitality | Teresa LaRosa |
| Farm News Editor | Nancy Powell |

- The TGAC meets monthly virtually on Zoom (until further notice) on **the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM**. All Tollgate Garden Volunteer members are welcome to attend and should contact Roy Prentice for meeting link.
- Contact information for individual TGAC members and Area Garden Leaders (AGL) are available by contacting Roy Prentice to have message or contact forwarded for response. Contact info can also be found in the Garden Binders in the Volunteer Communication Center.
- Tollgate Volunteer Membership is renewed annually. The 2022 Tollgate Garden Volunteer membership is valid from **January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022**.

For membership questions or to update your current membership information, email tollgatemembers@gmail.com

For general information and questions, contact Roy Prentice or see Website: <http://tollgate.msu.edu/volunteering/>

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center



28115 Meadowbrook
Novi, MI, 48377-3128
tollgate.msu.edu
Contact Roy Prentice:
248-347-3860 ext. 251

Updated:

10-26-2022

MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers
Activity Calendar-2022

| January | February | March |
|---|--|--|
| 4-TGAC via Zoom 7:00 PM 15-AGL Planning Meeting 10:00AM via Zoom 20-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM via Zoom  | 1-TGAC Meeting via Zoom 7:00 PM 17-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM via Zoom Activity Day 26-Maple Syrup Tapping 10:00AM  | 1-TGAC Meeting via Zoom 7:00 PM 17-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM via Zoom Activity Days 5/6- <i>Maplefest no work day</i> 12-Pruning 9:00AM 19-Grass Cut Back-all 9:00AM 26- Pathway/demo mulching 9:00AM |
| April | May | June |
| 5-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 21-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM Activity Days  2-12 Mile/Pond 9:00AM 9-Office/Entrance/Rain 9:00AM 16-Easter/Passover weekend/Demo 23-Rose/Heritage/Rockledge 9:00AM 30-Spring clean up 9:00AM New volunteer orientation 9:00AM | 3-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 19-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM Activity Days  7-Nursery/Children's/Xeriscape 9:00AM 14-Farmhouse/Shade/Hosta 9:00AM 21- Plant Sale Division/prep 9:00AM plant drop off 28-Memorial Weekend TBD | 7-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 16-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM Activity Days  4-Spring Plant Sale 9am-2pm 11-Rose/Hosta/Heritage 9:00AM 18-Office/Entrance/ Rain 9:00AM 25-Farmhouse/Shade and PAR 9:00AM |
| July | August | September |
| 5-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM  Activity Days 2- July 4th Weekend TBD 9-Children's/Xeriscape 9:00AM 16-Open House clean up 9:00AM 21-TGV Garden Open House 6-8:30PM <i>(Thursday-no membership mtg)</i> 23-Heritage/Rockledge/Rain 9:00AM 30-Rose/12 Mile/PAR 9:00AM | 2-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 18-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM  Activity Days 6-Nursery/Pond 9:00AM 13-Hosta/ Farmhouse/Shade 9:00AM 20-Demo/Entrance/Office 9:00AM 27-Rose/12 Mile/Nursery 9:00AM | 6-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 15-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM Activity Days  3-Labor Day Weekend TBD 10- Demo/Hosta 9:00AM 17-Nursery Fall Plant Sale 9:00-12:00 24-Xeriscape/Children's and Pond |
| October | November | December |
| 4-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM Yom Kippur 20-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM Activity Days 1-Plant Division & potting 9:00AM 8/9-Pumpkinfest 15-Fall Clean-Up 22-Fall Clean Up 29-Fall Clean up  | 1-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 5-Recognition Dinner 4:00PM  12-Rose Garden winter prep 10:00AM 24-Thanksgiving | 6-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 18-Hanukkah and 25-Christmas   |

****All activity days begin at 9 am and are subject to change. Please consult the newsletter or call 248 347-3860 ext 251 or look for e-mails for updated information. Visit on web: www.tollgate.msu.edu**

MSU TOLLGATE VOLUNTEER SIGN IN

LOGGING YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS HELPS US TELL TOLLGATE'S STORY TO THE MSU COMMUNITY

- USING THE CAMERA ON YOUR SMART PHONE, HOVER OVER THE QR CODE
- A LINK WILL APPEAR
- IF NO LINK APPEARS, YOU WILL HAVE TO DOWNLOAD A QR READER APP
- CLICK ON THE LINK TO THE GOOGLE SIGN IN PAGE
- COMPLETE WITH YOUR INFORMATION
- THIS SIGN-IN PROCEDURE DOES **NOT** LOG YOUR HOURS WITH MSU EXTENSION

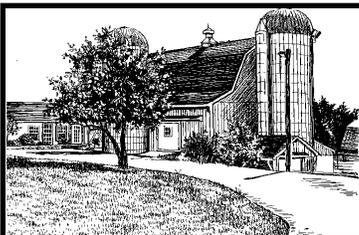


NOTE: If you prefer to complete your sign-in on your computer, this link will take you to the site:

[Tollgate Volunteer Sign In 2022](#)

MSU Tollgate gets a lot of credit for all the wonderful volunteers that tend the gardens, make maple syrup, and support programming. The farm would not be the unique place that it is without the support of many willing hands. Traditionally, Tollgate has relied on a sign-in sheet in the volunteer center to capture the hours of volunteer service. Many of our volunteers who work in the maple project or distant gardens may not visit the volunteer center when they are on the farm. To capture all of our volunteer hours, we are trying a new recording system. By following the instructions below and scanning the QR code, you can record your Tollgate hours online from anywhere. After you have scanned the code, you can even bookmark the link so that you can access the hours reporting form without the code.

Thank you for making Tollgate such a wonderful place! Roy



MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers Membership Form

Please legibly print all entries. Thank you.

2023

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ MI

Zip _____ - _____

Name you would like on badge, if needed

Date Submitted _____

Telephone Number

Day _____ - _____

Evening _____ - _____

Email _____

Choose **one only**:

Supporting member: I wish to support the volunteers and participate in monthly meetings but will **not** be participating *as a volunteer* in garden activities, projects or other events on the site.

Active member: I plan to participate *as a volunteer* in meetings, garden activities and/or other events or projects on the site and have or will complete the required Volunteer Selection Process.

Were you a Tollgate volunteer member last year? Yes () No ()

Are you interested in serving on a committee or garden project? Yes () No ()

If yes, please note below if you have a particular area of interest or skills to share.

A donation in support of the Tollgate Volunteer organization would be greatly appreciated (\$20 suggested). If you would like the newsletter mailed to you rather than emailed, please include an additional \$10 to cover postage.

Check here to have the newsletter mailed to you. _____

Make checks payable to: **Michigan State University**

Return to: **Tollgate Gardens Volunteer Office**
28115 Meadowbrook
Novi, MI 48377-3128

Questions: **Phone: 248-347-3860 Ext. 251**

Email: tollgatemembers@gmail.com

2023 Membership is valid from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Please read this Privacy Policy:

By filling out and submitting this form you authorize the Tollgate Garden Volunteers (TGV) and MSU to use your contact information to communicate with you via email, newsletters, and other formats. If you wish your email and other identification information to not be used by the TGV and MSU, please check this box (). (By checking this box, you will not receive email notification of workdays, or other volunteer opportunities, special events and educational opportunities, or the availability of the newsletter via e-mail.)

In the event of an emergency please notify:

Name _____

Phone _____ - _____